

**THE NORTH HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
5 LINSLEY STREET
NORTH HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

MINUTES

Date: December 6, 2012
7:00 p.m.

THIS MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT NORTH HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL , LIBRARY, 221 ELM STREET, NORTH HAVEN , CT 06473

Attendance at this REGULAR Meeting: Anita Anderson, Wesley O'Brien, Bryan Bogen, Jennifer Caldwell, Matt Kerzner, Randi Peterson, Kristine Carling, Business Manager, Melinda McKenna, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Robert D. Cronin, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools

Alicia Clapp and Carole Franceschet were absent.

Mrs. Anderson made the following motion:

Moved: to go out of order of the Agenda to recognize our "Student Spotlight".

MOVED: Bryan Bogen
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Mr. Piazza introduced Molly D'Andrea. Molly is an 8th grade honor student at North Haven Middle School. Molly has written and published a book "Shattered Ones". The book is now available on amazon.com or lulu.com . Molly took some questions from the Board and was presented a certificate congratulating her for such a great accomplishment.

1. Presentation by Vincent Mastaro, CAFE - Policies

Vincent Mastaro presented an overview of the CAFE Policy Services to the Board and answered all questions the Board had.

2. Approval of Minutes of October 11, 2012

Moved: to approve the Minutes October 11, 2012

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

3. Chairman's Report

Mrs. Anderson reported that earlier this evening the Board met with Chartwells for a presentation of their services. She stated that Chartwells provided sampling of the food/drink they offer on a daily basis. Mrs. Anderson reported that Chartwells will be reaching out to the school PTA groups to present at one of their meetings as well.

Mrs. Anderson introduced a new board member, Randi Petersen. Mrs. Petersen lives in the Green Acres district with her husband and three children. Mrs. Petersen's background is in special education. Mrs. Andersen also announced the resignation of Stephen Consiglio as a Board Member, stating that Mr. Consiglio's job responsibilities have changed and is traveling quite a bit for work. The Board has accepted his resignation.

4. Budgets:

a. 2012-2013 Budget

Mrs. Carling stated her report showed the actual expenditures through November with estimated adjustments. She stated that at this time of the year accounts are still being monitored and there are anticipated savings in insurance, benefits, and utilities due to lowered negotiated rates. Mrs. Carling reported that there are a few deficits at this point under professional services due to legal expenses and the estimated amounts in Special Education and transportation also shows a deficit, however the district is anticipating some grant funds coming in sometime in February.

Moved: to accept budget reports and place them on file

Approved

MOVED: Bryan Bogen
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

4. Report of Standing Committees

Finance and Operations did not meet this month.

a. Finance and Operations

1. Transportation report

Mrs. Carling stated that one of the issues regarding transportation were the bus loads. She stated that at this time the buses do not exceed 55 students. The second issue was the traffic concerns at the High School and Middle School. Mrs. Carling reported that some changes were made, for example an additional parent loop through the parking lot at the High School and additional signage at the Middle School and High School, as well as administrators and resource officer outside on a daily basis, which helps greatly. The last concern was regarding write ups and discipline on the busses. To date, Mrs. Carling reports there have been no write ups for high school to middle school students. She stated that there have been eleven write ups for middle school to middle school students. Mrs. Carling reported that she is putting a bus safety committee together and tomorrow is the first meeting at the elementary schools.

Mrs. Anderson stated that the Board of Education has reviewed all of the transportation issues and have decided to keep the two tier bus plan in place for the 2012-2013 school year. It will be discussed again with the bus company at the end of this school year to make a decision for the 2013-2014 school year.

b. Personnel

1. Approval of Winter Coaches (see attached)

Moved: to approve Winter Coaches

Approved

MOVED: Bryan Bogen
SECOND: Jennie Caldwell
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

2. Approval of an extended leave of absence for the 2012-2013 school year for Kate Giamattei, Art Teacher at Ridge Road Elementary School

Moved: to approve an extended leave of absence for the 2012-2013 school year
For Kate Giamattei, Art Teacher at Ridge Road Elementary School

Approved

MOVED: Bryan Bogen
SECOND: Jennie Caldwell
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

3. Approval of extended leave for Kristen Degnan, English Teacher at North Haven High School, beginning April 26, 2013 for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year

Moved: to approve an extended leave for Kristen Degnan, English Teacher at North Haven High School, beginning April 26, 2013 for the remainder of The 2012-2013 school year

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

4. Approval of the retirement of Maria Greco, Special Education Teacher at North Haven Middle School

Approved

Moved: to approve the retirement of Maria Greco, Special Education Teacher At North Haven Middle School

MOVED: Jennie Caldwell
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

c. Curriculum, Instruction and Planning

Curriculum, Instruction and Planning met on December 3, 2012.

Mrs. Franceschet was not in attendance this evening and Mrs. Anderson reported the following:

- Science Department Presentation – Patti White, science coordinator for grades K-12, gave a presentation to the committee. One of the goals is to set common experience for K-5 students throughout the district. Science Curriculum will be ramped up to meet the Common Core Standards. Ms. White is at each of the elementary schools, the Middle School, and the High School every week. She attends data team meetings, assists with lessons, holds discussion session for teachers to share their needs, and meets with the Curriculum Director on a regular basis. The committee was also given a handout entitled "Here and Now! Science Educators and Connecticut's Common Core Standards for ELA and Mathematics." It included a list of resources for teachers, and some samples of how Reading, Writing, and Math are integrated with Science
- Professional Development Update - On Thursday afternoon, December 6, K-5 teachers will do DRA assessment work, zeroing in on how to administer and score. Grade 6-12 will continue work on Scope and Sequence in their respective departments.
- The next meeting for Curriculum, Instruction and Planning Committee will be held on Monday, January 7, at 9:30 a.m. in Central Office.

d. Policy Committee

Mrs. Caldwell stated that the Policy Committee started some work on the policies beginning with the By Laws. She reviewed the By Laws with some possible updates and got input from the Board of Education. Mrs. Caldwell and the committee will continue working on the By Laws and submit a "draft" to the Board at a later date.

1. Approval of CAFE Policy Services

Moved: to approve CAFE Policy Services

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

2. First review of By Laws Policy

Mrs. Caldwell stated that the Policy Committee started some work on the policies beginning with the By Laws. Mrs. Caldwell and the committee will continue working on the By Laws and submit a "draft" to the Board at a later date.

3. Approval of the revised Section 504 Policy

Approved

Moved: to approve the revised Section 504 Policy

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Jennie Caldwell
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

6. ACES –NO REPORT
7. North Haven PTA Council

Mrs. Caldwell stated the PTA Council met on November 26, 2012. She reported the following activities:

- High School – school spirit, High School MADD presentation held for the 9th Graders, Senior to Senior Breakfast was on December 4, 2012
- Middle School had a Barnes and Noble Fundraiser December 7, 8, and 9, 2012
- Ridge Road Elementary School Holiday Fair on December 1, 2012
- Montowese Elementary School Leadership Council – getting donations of pajamas and books

The next PTA Council meeting will be January 28, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Old News:

1. Adopt-A-School

- Mrs. Anderson stated that she attended the Clintonville Holiday Fair.
- Mrs. Franceschet attended the Montowese Elementary School Election Day Bake Sale. She reported that Montowese raised \$1200.00 to donate to Hurricane Sandy victims.
- North Haven High School held a dedication naming the Theater the Patricia K. Brozek Theater on November 14, 2012.

8. Enrollment
9. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Cronin reported the following:

School Calendar – discussion regarding the 5 snow days. After discussion with the Board of Education, Dr. Cronin proposed February vacation will be reduced from 5 days to 2. Students will be off on Monday, February 18, 2013 and Tuesday, February 19, 2013. School will be in session on February 20, 21, and 22, 2013. By doing this we make up 3 of the 5 days.

We will cancel the March 18, 2013 professional development day and school will be in session, making up a 4th day.

The school year has been reduced from 181 to 180 days giving us another make-up day.

What this means is that as of last evening, the last day of school is back to June 18 as it was originally scheduled. Going forward, any school closings will be made up in June.

Dr. Cronin opened this discussion up to the public to get their thoughts/opinions:

- Lisa – commented that this was a good idea. Better to get the students out of school early in the summer.
- Dyann Vissicchio – commented that Dr. Cronin's plan is an excellent one.

- a. Discussion of 2012-2013 school calendar

Moved: to add an action item agenda to amend the 2012-2013 school calendar

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Moved: to approve the following changes in the 2012-2013 school calendar:

February vacation will be reduced from 5 days to 2. Students will be off on Monday, February 18, 2013 and Tuesday, February 19, 2012. School will be in session on February 20, 21, and 22, 2013. By doing this we make up 3 of the 5 days.

We will cancel the March 18, 2013 professional development day and school will be in session, making up a 4th day.

The school year has been reduced from 181 to 180 days giving us another make-up day.

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MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

10. Public Comments

- Dyann Vissicchio commented on some concerns she had with Chartwells and replacement equipment in some of the kitchens at some of the elementary schools.

11. Executive Session: Discussion and possible action concerning the Superintendent's Contract

Moved: to go into executive session to discuss possible action concerning the Superintendent's Contract 9:25 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Matthey Kerzner
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Moved: to come out of executive session, back into public session

Approved

MOVED: Bryan Bogen
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Board came out of executive session and Dr. O'Brien proposed the following:

Moved: to extend Dr. Cronin's contract for a period of three (3) years.

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

12. Adjournment

Moved: to adjourn at 10:15 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Bryan Bogen
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson

Anita Anderson,
Chairman